

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Xie, et al.

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Serial No.: Not yet assigned (CON of 09/432,382)

) Group No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: July 16, 2001

) Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: Compact Polarization Insensitive Circulators
with Simplified Structure and Low Polarization
Mode Dispersion

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before action on the merits, please consider the following amendments and remarks.

Before Field of Invention:

At page 1, line 6, please add a paragraph to read as follows:

Related Applications:

This application is a continuation of serial no. 09/432,382, filed 10/29/1999, which is fully incorporated herein by reference.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-40 without prejudice.

Please insert claims 41-58 as follows:

1 41. A method of tuning a spatial separation between a first optical port of an optical circulator and a third
2 optical port of the optical circulator comprising:

3 providing the optical circulator, and the optical circulator having a longitudinal axis, and the optical
4 circulator comprising a first optical port located at an end of the optical circulator, a second optical port
5 located at a distal end of the optical circulator from the first optical port along the longitudinal axis, a third
6 optical port located at the same end of the optical circulator as the first optical port, a first beam angle turner
7 located along the longitudinal axis between the first optical port and the second optical port; and a second
8 beam angle turner located along the longitudinal axis distally from the first beam angle turner, and the first
9 beam angle turner and the second beam angle turner being separated by a complete gap; and

10 adjusting a length of the complete gap causing a corresponding adjustment in a spatial separation
11 between a first light beam travelling from the first optical port to the second optical port and a second light